

State of Arizona Senate Forty-eighth Legislature Second Regular Session 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1043

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE POLLY GETZWILLER.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Polly Getzwiller, longtime member of the Arizona Legislature, died on March 18, 2008.

A native Arizonan, Polly Getzwiller was raised on the Blue River just outside of Alpine in the White Mountains. Her parents were pioneers in the area. She attended Florence High School. On graduation she married a cotton farmer named Bill Thomasson. After being married a few short years Polly lost her husband in a tragic automobile accident. Polly inherited the cotton farm on the Greens Reservoir, where they lived until the mid-1960s. With no prior experience in farming and young children, Polly entered the world of agriculture and became successful.

A few years later, Polly met her second husband, Marion. Marion was a cattleman and Polly was the farmer. They became a team. The family moved to the Casa Grande area in the late 1960's and lived there until making a permanent move in the late 1970's to the Gila Bend area. They raised three children, Billie Lou, Bill and Joe.

Polly Getzwiller became interested in politics and was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 1962. She ably served her constituents in Casa Grande and the greater Pinal County area in that capacity until 1976, when she was elected to the Arizona Senate where she served until 1984, for a total of twenty-two years of legislative service. During her legislative tenure, she served on such vitally important committees as agricultural, appropriations, finance, natural resources and transportation. She was known and respected for her support of women's equality and for work in resolving Arizona's water issues.

In 1990, she again ran for public office as Justice of the Peace in the Gila Bend precinct where she served until retiring in 2001. Her son, Joe, succeeded her and continues in office today.

Polly Getzwiller earned her pilot's license, and flew her airplane back and forth to the legislature. She was active in numerous community and civic organizations, including the Arizona Cotton Growers Association, the Pinal County Farm Bureau, the Eloy Business and Professional Women's Club and the Hoemako Hospital Auxiliary. Polly Getzwiller gave freely of her time, energy and efforts to better the world around her, and her dedication to public service and to her community earned her the respect and admiration of all who knew her. Her life story is one of service to her family and to the state. She presented an example of the strong leadership and commitment of the pioneers of Arizona.

Therefore

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the Members of the Legislature express regret for the passing of Polly Getzwiller and extend their deepest sympathies to her surviving family members.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE APRIL 10, 2008.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE SENATE APRIL 10, 2008.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 14, 2008.

READ IN FULL AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Passed the House

Speaker of the House

Pro Tempore

Chief Clerk of the House

READ IN FULL AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Passed the Senate

President of the Senate

Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this 14 day of April, 2008,

at 158 o'clock P.M.

Secretary of State

S.C.R. 1043